Induction of Personnel from Corporate Sectors in Diplomatic Missions

2737. SHRI SOM PAL:
SHRI MOHINDER SINGH LATHER: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is considering a proposal to induct personnel from Corporate Sectors in the commercial wing of India's diplomatic missions abroad;

(b) if so, what is the rationale thereof and what guidelines have been set for this purpose;

(c) whether some such officials have been already posted in our missions; and

(d) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI MADHAVSINH SOLANKI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

विदेश मंत्रालय के विदेश स्थित कार्यालयों में राजभाषा का प्रयोग

2738. श्री सत्य प्रकाश मालवीय: क्या विदेश मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) भारत सरकार के विदेश मंत्रालय के अधीन विदेश स्थित कार्यालयों में भारत की राजभाषा का कहां तक प्रयोग किया जा रहा है;

(ख) क्या इन कार्यालयों के माध्यम से हिन्दी का प्रचार और विकास करने की कोई योजना है; और

(ग) यदि हां, तो इस संबंध में पूर्ण ब्यौरा क्या है?

विदेश मंत्री (श्री माधव सिंह सोलंकी): (क) विदेश स्थित सभी भारतीय मिशनों से यह प्रत्याशा की जाती है कि राजभाषा अधिनियम तथा राजभाषा नियमों के प्रावधानों के क्रियान्वयन के बारे में कार्यात्मक दृष्टि से जहां तक संभव होगा, पालन करेंगे तथापि, हमारे मिशनों का ज्यादातर काम अपने-अपने प्रत्यायन के देशों से पड़ता है इसलिए हिंदी का प्रयोग करने की उसमें गुंजाइश कम ही होती है।

(ख) और (ग) जी हां। अपने मिशनों के माध्यम से विदेशों में हिन्दी का प्रचार-प्रसार करने की इस मंत्रालय की एक योजना है जिसके अन्तर्गत इन देशों में अपने मिशनों के माध्यम से हम हिंदी शिक्षण सामग्री, हिंदी की साहित्य एवं धार्मिक पुस्तकें, हिंदी के टाईपराइटर, आडियो कैसेट, भाषा-चार्ट, भाषाकिट आदि स्वयं-सेवी हिंदी संगठनों को विश्व-विद्यालयों और अन्य संस्थाओं को उपहार में देते हैं।

Scaling of Regional Passport Office, New Delhi

2739. SHRI SOM PAL: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Regional Passport Office in New Delhi was sealed by the Ministry of Urban Development for several days during the first week of February, 1992;

(b) if so, for how many days the office remained closed and what was the reasons therefor; and

(c) what is being done to see that such things do not happen in future?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI MADHAVSINH SOLANKI): (a) to (c) The question of an alternative location for the Regional Passport - Office has been under consideration for sometime. There were discussions between the Ministry of External Affairs and the Ministry of Urban Development during which Regional Passport Office was sealed for a brief period of two days.

Further discussions have been held and it has been decided that the Regional Passport Office will shift from its present location after suitable arrangements are made, details of which are being worked out in consultation with the Ministry of Urban Development.

2740 *[Transferred to the* 24th *March,* 1992]

Joint Collaboration with Nepal

2741. SHRI JAGADISH JANI: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any proposal under consideration to strengthen relation with Nepal;

(b) if so, the area identified by both the Governments to establish joint collaborations; and

(c) the various projects in Nepal which

are being funded at present by the Government of India or proposed to be provided funds in the near future?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI MADHAVSINH SOLANKI): (a) to (c) The relations between India and Nepal have been deepened and strengthened during recent years through exchange of a number of high-level visits, the most recent of which was the visit of Prime Minister G.P. Koirala of Nepal to India from 5-10 December, 1991. During the course of the visit, extensive and fruitful discussions were held on a wide range of issues of mutual interest and benefit. A number of treaties and agreements—an Indo-Nepal Treaty of Trade, an Indo-Nepal Treaty of Transit, an Agreement for Cooperation in Controlling Unauthorised Trade, a Memorandum of Understanding for the establishment of the B.P. Koirala India-Nepal Foundation and Memorandum of Understanding on cooperation in the field of agriculture were signed during the visit. The Trade Treaty contains several new facilities and concessions for promoting Nepalese exports to India, and the new Transit Treaty has considerably simplified customs and other procedures. Both sides have committed themselves to cooperating fully to control the growing scourge of smuggling which seriously affects the Indian economy.

A number of key decisions were also taken concerning various hydel projects and other aspects of cooperation in water resources development, the sector with the maximum potential for substantially benefitting both countries. Special emphasis was laid on promoting India-Nepal joint ventures including a particularly favourable access regime to the Indian market for the products of approved joint ventures-with a view to assisting the industrial development of Nepal. It was also decided that special attention would be paid to promoting joint ventures in agro-industries and other projects directly related to rural development and employment generation in rural areas of Nepal.

A number of new Indian-aided projects were also indentified, in the fields of public health, communications and telecommunications. Concrete steps were indetificd for promoting cooperation in civil aviation & tourism.

As a follow-up of the visit, a number of Indian experts teams have visited Nepal to discuss the modalities for implementing some of the projects mentioned above, such as the Bir Hospital Expansion project, the B.P. Koirala Institute of Medical Sciences Project, the Rangeli telephone exchange project, some road projects, etc. Both sides would be taking necessary steps in future to implement these and other projects which had been agreed to during the visit of Prime Minister of Nepal to India. Thus, both Governments have prepared the ground for ushering in a new era in mutually benefical bilateral cooperation.

Sale of Defence Items to Pakistan by USA

2742. SHRI KAPIL VERMA:
SHRIMATI SATYA BAHIN:
SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA:

Will the Minister, of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received reports of sales of ammunitions and spare parts to Pakistan;

(b) whether Government have seen statement of state Department spokesman Richard Boncher in February justifying it on ground that it was commercial export; and

(c) if so, what is Government's reaction and whether issue has been taken up with U.S. administration?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI MADHAVSINH SOLANKI): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) Yes Sir.

(c) Govt, constantly monitors all developments having a bearing on India's security environment and take necessary steps to safeguard India's security. Foreign Secretary discussed this issue with the US Administration during his recent visit to Washington.